Manifest Destiny Map

**Instructions**

* Read each description of a step in the development of the West below.
  + **Read them in order**, so that you learn about each in the order that it happened.
* Complete the description of that addition to the U.S. by filling in the blanks and writing in the date.
* Color the area of the map related to the step that is being described a single color.
  + If a trail is being described, mark a distinct line pattern along the line: dashes, dash-dot, all dots, or short squiggles.
* Create a border for the box that matches the color of the area or the line pattern of the trail being described by the notes in that box.
* Write the title "Development of the West" in the grey box in the upper right corner of the map. Be artistic!
* Write your name on the line in the bottom right corner.

Steps in the development of the West – From Sea to Shining Sea

1. **Original Thirteen Colonies 1776**

The Declaration of Independence is the usual name of a statement adopted by the [Continental Congress](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Continental_Congress) on July 4, 1776, which announced that the [thirteen American colonies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteen_Colonies), then at war with [Great Britain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Great_Britain), regarded themselves as thirteen independent [states](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign_state), and no longer a part of the [British Empire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Empire). Instead they formed confederation under The Articles of Confederation.

1. **Area ceded to the States by Britain after Revolutionary War 1783**

The Treaty of Paris, signed in [Paris](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris) by representatives of [King George III](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King_George_III) of [Great Britain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Great_Britain) and representatives of the [United States of America](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_of_America) on September 3, 1783, ended the [American Revolutionary War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War). The territory granted to the Confederation of states was "exceedingly generous," extending the boundaries of the new nation beyond the original 13 colonies to the Mississippi River.

1. **Louisiana Purchase 1803**

Millions of American lived west of the Appalachian Mountains by 1800, most of them farmers. Louisiana had recently been acquired by France through war with Spain in Europe, and New Orleans was a key port at the mouth of the Mississippi River. Farmers transported goods down the Mississippi River to American cities in the East, using the New Orleans harbor to transfer goods from river barges to ocean-going ships. The U.S. offered to buy New Orleans to protect this shipping. Napoleon offered to sell *all* of the Louisiana Territory, more than 828,000 square miles, because the war in Europe was going badly for him, he had lost the French Caribbean colony of Haiti to rebellion, and he needed the money. The Louisiana Purchase was the largest land purchase in the history of the United States and the cheapest at 4 cents per acre.

1. **British Cession 1818**

The Convention of 1818 was a treaty between the United States and Great Britain that set the 49th parallel as the boundary between the British North America (later Canada) and the U.S. as far as the Rocky Mountains. The U.S. gave land north of the line to the British and the British gave the land south of the line to the U.S. This simple, logical border is a sign of the continued improved relations between the two countries after the war of 1812.

1. **Spanish Cession 1819**

The Adams–Onís Treaty of 1819, also known as the Transcontinental Treaty, was a treaty between the [United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) and [Spain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spain) in 1819 that gave [Florida](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florida) to the U.S. and set out a boundary between the U.S. and Spain along the Louisiana Territory's southern boundary. Florida had become a burden to Spain, which had no settlers there and could not afford to keep soldiers to control Natives and pirates in the region.

1. **Santa Fe Trail**

The Santa Fe Trail was the first overland trade route between the United States and Mexico. It was first used by American traders in 1821. Spain had made trade with the United States illegal as it wanted complete control of its colonies, but when Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821, the Mexican government welcomed the trade.

1. **Oregon Trail**

During the early 1840s, several thousand Americans migrated to the northwest coast along the **Oregon** and **California Trails**. They knew they were in territory also claimed by Britain and Mexico, but hoped that the U.S. would annex these lands.

1. **Manifest Destiny**

In the election of 1844, **James Polk** ran for president as a strong supporter of expansion.  He and others subscribed to the idea of **Manifest Destiny**, the doctrine that it was America's God-given right to extend its boundaries to the Pacific Ocean. Americans believed God was on the side of American expansion, democracy would spread, and population growth in the U.S. made expansion necessary.

1. **Republic of Texas splits from Mexico 1836 and annexed 1845**

During the 1820's, Mexico had just gained independence from Spain. Mexico wanted people to settle in Texas and offered large tracts of fertile and inexpensive land to whites who were willing to move there.  Americans began to move to Texas. Disagreement developed between the Mexican government and American settlers: Mexico had outlawed slavery, Mexico was a Catholic country, and required settlers to convert to Catholicism while most American settlers were Protestant, and Mexico insisted that settlers in Texas pay taxes on goods imported from the U.S. In 1836, settlers voted to declare independence from Mexico and after two months of fighting forced Mexico to sign a treaty recognizing Texas as an independent republic. Texans hoped that the U.S. would **annex** Texas.  But the United States wanted to avoid war with Mexico and anti-slavery forces in the north were against adding Texas to the Union because would tip the delicate balance of power between slave and non-slave states in the Senate.  Texas would remain an independent republic for nearly a decade.

1. **Oregon Territory and British Columbia split by Treaty with Great Britain 1846**

Polk's first order of business as president was settling the dispute with Great Britain over the Oregon Country.  A treaty signed in 1846 established the present-day boundary between the U.S. and Canada. This helped calm the fears of northerners about control of the Senate, because Oregon, which did not have slavery, would balance Texas, keeping the number of free states and the number of slave states equal.

1. **Mormon Trail**

Mormons had faced the destruction of their colonies and murder of their leaders by mobs in New York, Illinois and Missouri because of their religious beliefs and practices: the Book of Mormon as a holy text in addition to the bible, polygamy, and communal ownership of property.  As a result, in 1847, the first group of Mormons left the United States and followed a trail that ran along a route similar to that of the Oregon Trail to the banks of the Great Salt Lake. There they settled, praying they would be safe in this unsettled desert area of Mexico.

1. **War with Mexico 1848**

After the Congress formally voted to annex Texas in 1845, the country prepared for full-scale war with Mexico. To get Congress to declare war, President Polk ordered American forces to occupy land under dispute between the two nations provoked. When the presence of troops provoked Mexican troops to defend Mexico's right to this disputed land, Polk was able to claim Congress needed to declare war because American blood had been shed by Mexican troops. The Mexican-American War began in early 1846 lasted for a little over two years.  American troops invaded from the North along the border of Texas, from the Gulf of Mexico marching into Mexico City and across the Southwest to California, which was already under attack by American Mountain Men, traders who had started their own Bear Flag Revolt. Under the **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** (1848), Mexico ceded to the United States most of its southwest and Pacific territories, including what is now California, Nevada and Utah, and most of New Mexico and Arizona.

1. **California Trail**

The discovery of gold in northern California in 1848 (at Sutter's Mill) fueled the largest mass migration in American history. Over 300,000 people eventually made the journey to California, leading to the rapid formation of the state of California in 1850.

1. **Gadsden Purchase from Mexico 1853**

The Gadsden Purchase, or Treaty, was an agreement between the United States and Mexico, in which the United States agreed to pay Mexico $10 million for land necessary for a southern transcontinental railroad. The land purchased was part of a valley and thus was flat, as crossing the mountains to the north would have been impossible at the time.